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June 19, 1997

EX PARTE PRESENTATION

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JUN 19 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Mr. William F. Caton  
Acting Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Implementation of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket No. 96-98 and Application by SBC Communications Inc., Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, and Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc. d/b/a Southwestern Bell Long Distance for Provision of In-Region, InterLATA Services in Oklahoma, CC Docket No. 97-121*

Dear Mr. Caton:

In accordance with the Commission's rules governing ex parte presentations, please be advised that yesterday Southwestern Bell presented two live, "real time" demonstrations of the multiple electronic interfaces presently available for competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC) access to Southwestern Bell's operations support systems (OSS) functions to the following Commission staff: Tom Boasberg (Office of the Chairman); Patrick DeGraba (Common Carrier Bureau); Edward Krachmer (Common Carrier Bureau, Competitive Pricing Division); Ken Ackerman (Common Carrier Bureau, Accounting and Audits Division); Brett Kissel (Common Carrier Bureau, Accounting and Audits Division); John Hays (Common Carrier Bureau, Accounting and Audits Division); Robert Hood (Common Carrier Bureau, Accounting and Audits Division); Craig Brown (Common Carrier Bureau, Policy and Program Planning Division); Radhika Karmarkar (Common Carrier Bureau, Policy and Program Planning Division); and Wendy Lader (Common Carrier Bureau, Policy and Program Planning Division).

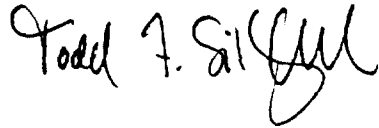
The purpose of the demonstrations was to show the various electronic options available to CLECs for access to Southwestern Bell's OSS, that these options provide the same access to the OSS as Southwestern Bell's own operations, and that the various options provide CLECs with a meaningful opportunity to compete in the local market.

While the presentations did not present any data or arguments not already reflected in SBC's or Southwestern Bell's comments and filings in the above-referenced dockets, a memorandum summarizing the presentations is attached for the record.

Mr. William F. Caton  
June 19, 1997  
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In accordance with the Commission's rules, an original and one copy of this notification are submitted herewith for each docketed proceeding. Should you have any questions concerning the foregoing, do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Todd F. Silf". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Attachments

cc: Mr. Boasberg  
Mr. DeGraba  
Mr. Krachmer  
Mr. Ackerman  
Mr. Kissel  
Mr. Hays  
Mr. Hood  
Mr. C. Brown  
Ms. Karmarkar  
Ms. Lader  
Ms. Matthey  
Mr. Welch

# **SOUTHWESTERN BELL**

## **OPERATIONS SUPPORT SYSTEMS (OSSs)**

### **DEMONSTRATION**

WASHINGTON, D. C.  
JUNE 17-18, 1997

#### **OPENING REMARKS**

LIZ HAM

#### **PRE-ORDER / ORDER**

DATAGATE  
SWB TOOLBAR (*VERIGATE*)  
EASE  
    *CONSUMER*  
    *BUSINESS*  
LEX

JOHN SMITH  
JOHN SMITH  
  
JUDY HERMANN  
IRMA GOODWIN  
JOHN SMITH

#### **BREAK**

EDI  
SWB TOOLBAR (*ORDER STATUS*)

JOHN SMITH  
ED VOTOUPAL

#### **MAINTENANCE/REPAIR**

SWB TOOLBAR (*TROUBLE ADM*)  
ELECTRONIC BONDING (EB)

RANDY GURLEY  
RANDY GURLEY

#### **BILLING**

SWB TOOLBAR (*BILLING INQUIRY*)  
BILL PLUS  
USAGE EXTRACT FEED

ED VOTOUPAL  
BETH LAWSON  
BETH LAWSON

## **SOUTHWESTERN BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY OPERATIONS SUPPORT SYSTEMS DEMONSTRATION**

As noted by the FCC in its Second Order on Reconsideration in CC Docket No. 96-98, successful ordering and provisioning requires access to the incumbent local exchange carriers (ILECs) operations support systems (OSS) functions that is equivalent to that which they provide to themselves, their affiliates or customers. In order to satisfy this requirement, Southwestern Bell Telephone Company (SWBT) currently provides multiple electronic interface options to competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs) for access to OSS functions. Moreover, SWBT continues to work on the development of additional capabilities and interfaces.

On June 17, 1997, SWBT presented a "live" demonstration of the multiple electronic interface options for access to SWBT's OSS functions. Specifically, the presentation included a demonstration of the electronic interfaces for pre-ordering, ordering and provisioning, maintenance and repair, and billing functions in connection with both resold services and unbundled network elements.

A description of the systems discussed in the demonstration is as follows:

- Verigate -- a SWBT graphical user interface that operates with Microsoft Windows™ and provides CLECs with access to pre-ordering functions available from SWBT's "back office" systems. It was designed for CLECs that do not want to use EASE or develop their own graphical user interface. Verigate provides CLECs with pre-ordering capabilities for resold service and unbundled network elements (UNEs), including access to the customer service records.
- DataGate -- a SWBT gateway that provides an application-to-application electronic interface for CLECs with their own graphical user interface. DataGate provides CLECs with pre-ordering capabilities for resold service and UNEs.
- Easy Access Sales Environment (EASE) -- is an on-line system that was developed as a service order negotiation tool for SWBT's own retail service representatives and is currently used by them for residential and business customers. "Residential EASE" is used for pre-ordering and ordering for customers with up to five lines. "Business EASE" is used for pre-ordering and ordering for customers with up to 30 lines. EASE presents information in both plain English and universal service order codes (USOCs). EASE is now available to CLECs for pre-ordering, ordering, and provisioning resold services. EASE will afford CLECs exactly the same access to ordering capabilities that SWBT offers to its retail service representatives.
- Southwestern Bell Toolbar/LSR Exchange System (LEX) -- SWBT developed a graphical user interface that operates with Microsoft Windows™ and is based upon Ordering and Billing Forum/Telecommunications Interface Forum (OBF/TCIF) standards. LEX will enable CLECs to electronically create and transmit local service

requests (LSRs) to Southwestern Bell, to receive acknowledgments and notification of error details, and track firm order confirmations and service order completion status of LSRs. We have begun a joint trial with a CLEC to test LEX's UNE capabilities. Negotiations are taking place with another CLEC to test LEX's resale services capabilities beginning in July 1997.

- Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) -- SWBT's EDI Gateway provides an electronic interface that conforms to the OBF/TCIF national standard and allows CLECs to electronically submit local service requests for resale and unbundled network elements. A mechanized loop test and trouble history functionality is also available.
- Southwestern Bell Toolbar/Order Status -- a SWBT electronic interface that allows CLECs to check the status of service orders or to verify that a service order has been completed for resold services and UNEs.
- Southwestern Bell Toolbar/Trouble Administration -- a SWBT electronic interface that allows CLECs to submit and check on the status of trouble reports for resold services or UNEs.
- Electronic Bonding -- is the industry standardized electronic interface for trouble reporting and obtaining status updates for exchange services. Electronic bonding has been made available by SWBT to enable CLECs to submit trouble reports, receive trouble status updates, and closure information for local services.
- Billing Inquiry -- CLECs can use a SWBT gateway to access billing data regarding resale and UNEs purchased from SWBT.
- Bill Plus<sup>SM</sup> -- enables CLECs to receive their monthly bill on a diskette or to download bills to their electronic billing system by modem.